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SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1289

State of Washington 56th Legislature 1999 Regular Session

By House Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Representatives Conway, Clements, McIntire and Wood; by request of Employment Security Department)

Read first time 02/26/1999.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to conforming unemployment compensation statutes
- 2 with federal law; amending RCW 50.16.030; and creating a new section.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 Sec. 1. RCW 50.16.030 and 1983 1st ex.s. c 7 s 1 are each amended 5 to read as follows:
- 6 (1) Moneys shall be requisitioned from this state's account in the

unemployment trust fund solely for the payment of benefits and

- 8 repayment of loans from the federal government to guarantee solvency of
- 9 the unemployment compensation fund in accordance with regulations
- 10 prescribed by the commissioner, except that money credited to this
- 11 state's account pursuant to section 903 of the social security act, as
- 12 amended, shall be used exclusively as provided in RCW 50.16.030(5).
- 13 The commissioner shall from time to time requisition from the
- 14 unemployment trust fund such amounts, not exceeding the amounts
- 15 standing to its account therein, as he or she deems necessary for the
- 16 payment of benefits for a reasonable future period. Upon receipt
- 17 thereof the treasurer shall deposit such moneys in the benefit account
- 18 and shall issue his or her warrants for the payment of benefits solely
- 19 from such benefits account.

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- (2) Expenditures of such moneys in the benefit account and refunds 1 2 from the clearing account shall not be subject to any provisions of law requiring specific appropriations or other formal release by state 3 4 officers of money in their custody, and RCW 43.01.050, as amended, 5 shall not apply. All warrants issued by the treasurer for the payment of benefits and refunds shall bear the signature of the treasurer and 6 7 the countersignature of the commissioner, or his or her duly authorized 8 agent for that purpose.
- 9 (3) Any balance of moneys requisitioned from the unemployment trust fund which remains unclaimed or unpaid in the benefit account after the expiration of the period for which sums were requisitioned shall either be deducted from estimates for, and may be utilized for the payment of, 12 benefits during succeeding periods, or in the discretion of the commissioner, shall be redeposited with the secretary of the treasury 14 15 of the United States of America to the credit of this state's account in the unemployment trust fund. 16
 - (4) Money credited to the account of this state in the unemployment trust fund by the secretary of the treasury of the United States of America pursuant to section 903 of the social security act, as amended, may be requisitioned and used for the payment of expenses incurred for the administration of this title pursuant to a specific appropriation by the legislature, provided that the expenses are incurred and the money is requisitioned after the enactment of an appropriation law which:
- 25 (a) Specifies the purposes for which such money is appropriated and 26 the amounts appropriated therefor ((-))
- 27 (b) Limits the period within which such money may be obligated to 28 a period ending not more than two years after the date of the enactment 29 of the appropriation law((-)) and
- 30 (c) Limits the amount which may be obligated during a twelve-month period beginning on July 1st and ending on the next June 30th to an 31 amount which does not exceed the amount by which (i) the aggregate of 32 33 the amounts credited to the account of this state pursuant to section 903 of the social security act, as amended, during the same twelve-34 35 month period and the thirty-four preceding twelve-month periods, exceeds (ii) the aggregate of the amounts obligated pursuant to RCW 36 37 50.16.030 (4), (5) and (6) and charged against the amounts credited to the account of this state during any of such thirty-five twelve-month 38 39 periods. For the purposes of RCW 50.16.030 (4), (5) and (6), amounts

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obligated during any such twelve-month period shall be charged against equivalent amounts which were first credited and which are not already so charged; except that no amount obligated for administration during any such twelve-month period may be charged against any amount credited during such a twelve-month period earlier than the thirty-fourth twelve-month period preceding such period: PROVIDED, That any amount credited to this state's account under section 903 of the social security act, as amended, which has been appropriated for expenses of administration, whether or not withdrawn from the trust fund shall be excluded from the unemployment compensation fund balance for the purpose of experience rating credit determination.

(5) Money credited to the account of this state pursuant to section 903 of the social security act, as amended, may not be withdrawn or used except for the payment of benefits and for the payment of expenses of administration and of public employment offices pursuant to RCW 50.16.030 (4), (5) and (6). However, moneys credited because of excess amounts in federal accounts in federal fiscal years 1999, 2000, and 2001 shall be used solely for the administration of the unemployment compensation program and are not subject to appropriation by the legislature for any other purpose.

(6) Money requisitioned as provided in RCW 50.16.030 (4), (5) and (6) for the payment of expenses of administration shall be deposited in the unemployment compensation fund, but until expended, shall remain a part of the unemployment compensation fund. The commissioner shall maintain a separate record of the deposit, obligation, expenditure and return of funds so deposited. Any money so deposited which either will not be obligated within the period specified by the appropriation law or remains unobligated at the end of the period, and any money which has been obligated within the period but will not be expended, shall be returned promptly to the account of this state in the unemployment trust fund.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. If any part of this act is found to be in conflict with federal requirements that are a prescribed condition to the allocation of federal funds to the state or the eligibility of employers in this state for federal unemployment tax credits, the conflicting part of this act is inoperative solely to the extent of the conflict, and the finding or determination does not affect the operation of the remainder of this act. Rules adopted under this act

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- 1 must meet federal requirements that are a necessary condition to the
- 2 receipt of federal funds by the state or the granting of federal
- 3 unemployment tax credits to employers in this state.

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